

LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA

**Located at Dickinson College
Archives & Special Collections**

<http://archives.dickinson.edu/>

Documents Online

Title: *PA Rural Gay Legislative Committee Minutes*

Date: April 24, 1976

Location: LGBT-001 Joseph W. Burns Collection

Contact:

LGBT History Project
Archives & Special Collections
Waidner-Spahr Library
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

Date: April 24, 1976
Time: 1:00 P.M. (13,00 hrs.)
Place: Residence of Lou Railer, 319 N.22nd St.
Allentown, Pa. 18104

Attending: Helmuth J. Baerwald
Ken P. Burke
Joseph Burns
Bill Hollabaugh
Harry Long
Lou Railer

STRUCTURE: Members present discussed the statement of purpose and finalized the phrase: " TO PROMOTE THE POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF GAY PEOPLE AT LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL LEVELS AS AN ARM TO THE PENNSYLVANIA RURAL GAY CAUCUS ". It was decided that the structure would be loose with only a Chairperson and Secretary. Bill Hollabaugh was unanimously acclaimed Chairperson, with Joe Burns as Secretary, following this initial meeting. No decision concerning financial support was reached, but such support will be pursued from the P.R.G.C. It was also mentioned that people who were to become involved should be urged to be conscientious about attending meetings and fulfilling responsibilities.

ACTIVITIES TO BE PURSUED:

ON THE LOCAL LEVEL: Organizations across the State are to be encouraged and advised by providing them with a communications mechanism through which information obtained from local groups concerning lobbying efforts and law reform within their respective communities can be dispensed. The Committee is to devise a survey for use by local organizations to help their legislators properly assess attitudes concerning equal rights for gay people. Harry Long agreed to take on the responsibility for creating the questionnaire with the assistance of Lou Railer and possibly that of Tony Silvestre.

ON THE STATE LEVEL: Joe Burns has agreed to report the status of State legislation and methods of direct involvement in the State legislative processes. He has further agreed to contact Harry Langhorne in order to obtain the "educational packet" for personal distribution.

ON THE FEDERAL LEVEL: Ken Burke has assumed responsibility to report on federal legislation including the recent Supreme Court decision. Furthermore, he has agreed to prepare maps and charts of districts for use in visually regulating committee activities. The committee will primarily concern itself with Legislators on the State and Federal levels from rural Pennsylvania.

LEGISLATOR VISITOR'S SUMMARY SHEET: Ken Burke has agreed to review and revise as necessary the Summary Sheet.

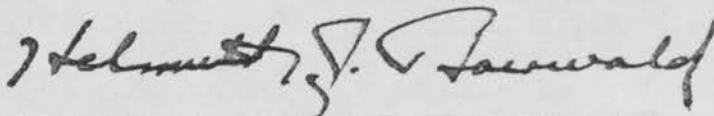
GAY LOBBY DAY DATA: Data compiled during GAY LOBBY DAY and currently in the possession of Sam Deetz is to be retrieved and immediately reproduced by Bill Hollabaugh for storage in Bethlehem and tentatively with Artemis in Harrisburg (temporarily in Allentown). Bill has further agreed to investigate what information might be available from the Artemis House.

PROPAGANDA: Bill Hollabaugh and Joe Burns have agreed to prepare a letter for inclusion with the Newsletter of local organizations, requesting people to write to their legislators on behalf of SODOMY REPEAL.

ADVERTISING: Bill Hollabaugh has agreed to request the GAY ERA to report on Legislative Committee meetings.

NEXT MEETING: The Legislative Committee will next convene following Dinner after the next Rural Gay Caucus meeting on May 8, 1976 in State College, Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted by:



Helmut J. Baerwald, Acting Secretary

Prepared by:

K.P. Burke & H.J. Baerwald

April 29, 1976